

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



**PA 13-172—HB 6406**  
*General Law Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION DRUG  
MONITORING PROGRAM**

**SUMMARY:** This act expands the Department of Consumer Protection's (DCP) electronic prescription drug monitoring program by requiring prescription information reporting by (1) out-of-state pharmacies that ship, mail, or deliver prescription drugs into the state and (2) any other drug dispensing practitioner. Practitioners include certain medical professionals (physicians, dentists, veterinarians, and podiatrists), researchers, pharmacies, hospitals, and other people or institutions permitted to dispense drugs in the course of professional practice or research. Existing law already requires pharmacies and out-patient pharmacies in hospitals or institutions to report.

The act exempts physicians from having to report dispensing samples of controlled substances to patients. (PA 13-208 makes additional exemptions. See BACKGROUND.)

By law, the program collects information on schedules II through V controlled substances. The act allows the DCP commissioner to identify additional products to include in the program. It also requires covered pharmacies and practitioners to report prescription information to DCP weekly, instead of twice monthly, as under prior law.

The act prohibits any person or employer from preventing a prescribing practitioner or pharmacy from requesting controlled substance prescription information from DCP.

Finally, the act requires practitioners who distribute, administer, or dispense controlled substances, or who seek to do so, to register for access to the program, in a manner DCP chooses, in addition to the existing requirement for such practitioners to register with DCP. These practitioners include certain medical professionals (physicians, dentists, veterinarians, podiatrists, optometrists, physician assistants, advanced practice registered nurses, and nurse-midwives), scientific investigators, hospitals, and other people or institutions who dispense in the course of professional practice or research.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BACKGROUND**

*Electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring Program*

This program requires DCP to collect prescription information to prevent improper or illegal drug use. Pharmacists must electronically report certain drug information to DCP, including the dispensing date, dispenser identification and prescription number, and certain patient identification data.

## OLR PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY

### *Related Act*

PA 13-208 exempts from the electronic prescription drug monitoring program's reporting requirements (1) hospitals, when dispensing controlled substances to inpatients and (2) institutional pharmacies or pharmacist's drug rooms operated by Department of Public Health-licensed health care institutions, when dispensing or administering opioid antagonists directly to a patient to treat a substance use disorder.

OLR Tracking: DL:ND:PF:RO